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2 U.S. DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
3 BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT  
4 ALPINE SATELLITE DEVELOPMENT PLAN  
5 DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT  
6

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9 TRANSCRIPT OF PUBLIC MEETING PROCEEDINGS  
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12 BEFORE GARY FOREMAN, HEARING OFFICER  
13 BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT

14 Village Council Hall  
15 Anaktuvuk Pass, Alaska  
16 February 17, 2004  
17 7:00 o'clock p.m.  
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PANEL:

MR. JAMES NAGEAK  
Translator

## P R O C E E D I N G S

(On record; 7:00 p.m.)

MR. FOREMAN: Good evening. It's about 7:20 and the appointed time to start is right about now and I'd like to call this hearing to order, if I could. My name is Gary Foreman, and I'm tonight's hearing officer. Tonight's interpreter is James Nageak. This hearing is being held for the purpose of providing you an opportunity to make oral comments on the Bureau of Land Management's Alpine Satellite Development Plan Environmental Impact Statement and related ANILCA 810 Subsistence Evaluation and Finding.

MR. NAGEAK: (Translates) Same as Nuiqsut?

MR. FOREMAN: Yes.

MR. NAGEAK: (Translates) Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act [sic] 1980 [sic], something or other. (Continues translation)

MR. FOREMAN: Unlike the open house, this is a formal hearing and as such we will not be entertaining questions; however, there are several members or individuals from the Bureau of Land Management or the cooperating agencies and our contractor that are here that afterwards, if there's time permitting, you can ask us questions and we can answer those questions. And what I'd like to do now if the folks, as I introduce them, would stand up so you know who the folks are. We have myself, Gary Foreman from BLM, Stacie McIntosh is also

1 from the BLM. We have Ken Taylor from the state, we have Jean  
2 Gamache and Colleen Berg from the Environmental Protection  
3 Agency. We have Mike Nagy in the back, is our contractor from  
4 ENTRIX as is Anne Brooks. And also here tonight are Mark  
5 Majors and Linda DeGeorge from the applicant, ConocoPhillips.

6 MR. NAGEAK: (Translates) They will not be  
7 entertaining questions. (Continues translation and repeats  
8 introductions)

9 MR. FOREMAN: This Draft Environmental Impact Statement  
10 is analyzing the impacts of the proposal that has been  
11 submitted to us by ConocoPhillips and they want to develop five  
12 new drilling pads near their Alpine facility.

13 MR. NAGEAK: (Translates)

14 MR. FOREMAN: I'd like to take just a moment or two to  
15 bring you up to date as to where we are in the EIS process.  
16 And if you all would get a letter, one of our newsletters, it's  
17 got the schedule right here on the left-hand side, and right  
18 now we're at the public meeting phase for the Draft EIS. And,  
19 as you can tell, our opportunities to get public comment are  
20 running toward the end and this is one of the best chances for  
21 you to get your information to us and would sure appreciate  
22 your comments tonight.

23 MR. NAGEAK: (Translates)

24 MR. FOREMAN: Additional information on the Draft EIS  
25 is available at the sign-in table. The Draft EIS is available

1 on the Internet at the site, Alpine-Satellites-EIS.com.

2 MR. NAGEAK: (Translates)

3 MR. FOREMAN: All comments provided to the BLM and its  
4 contractors will be compiled, analyzed, and considered by the  
5 BLM and the cooperating agencies in preparing the Final EIS and  
6 the ANILCA 810 Subsistence Finding.

7 MR. NAGEAK: (Translates) I forgot what the  
8 A-N-I-L-C-A is. Do you?

9 MS. GAMACHE: Alaska National Interest Lands  
10 Conservation Act.

11 MR. NAGEAK: Alaska National.....

12 MS. GAMACHE: Interest.

13 MR. NAGEAK: .....Interest Lands Conservation Act.  
14 That was in 1980? I think it was 1980. (Continues  
15 translation) Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act [sic].  
16 (Continues translation)

17 MR. FOREMAN: Okay. These are scheduled for release in  
18 July of this year.

19 MR. NAGEAK: (Translates)

20 MR. FOREMAN: In addition to speaking tonight or  
21 filling out one of the comment forms at the sign-in table,  
22 comments can be provided through the Web site or by mailing  
23 them to ENTRIX at 3701 East Tudor Road, Suite 208, Anchorage,  
24 Alaska 99507.

25 Now the Web site and ENTRIX's address are on the back

1 of the newsletter. The deadline for submitting the comments is  
2 March, March 1st of this year, 2004.

3 MR. NAGEAK: (Translates) Are there questions in that?  
4 I didn't look at it, the comment forms. They're just.....

5 MR. FOREMAN: They're.....

6 MR. NAGEAK: Oh. (Translates)

7 MR. FOREMAN: This hearing is one of a series of  
8 hearings being held to obtain the public's comments. In  
9 addition to tonight's meetings, meetings have been held already  
10 at Barrow and Nuiqsut and will be held at Atqasuk, Fairbanks,  
11 and Anchorage.

12 MR. NAGEAK: (Translates)

13 MR. FOREMAN: So that we accurately record your  
14 comments tonight, I will call the names of those who have  
15 indicated they wish to speak and invite you to come up to the  
16 microphone. At that time, if you would state your name, the  
17 organization you represent if there is one, and then make your  
18 comments, and if you have written comments I would ask you to  
19 provide them to Anne Brooks after you're done speaking.

20 MR. NAGEAK: (Translates)

21 MR. FOREMAN: I will ask each speaker to kind of limit  
22 themselves to about five minutes. If you reach the time limit,  
23 I'll ask you for a summary of your comments so that we can have  
24 other people speak if they want to. When we complete the list  
25 of people wanting to speak and if we have time left, then we'll

1 come back and if you have additional comments you would like to  
2 give us, you can give it to us at the time.

3 MR. NAGEAK: (Translates) Five minutes. Five minutes  
4 (speaks in Inupiak) that's not right. Let's see. It's the  
5 time limit. I don't know. Five minutes.

6 AUDIENCE MEMBER: (Speaks in Inupiak)

7 MR. NAGEAK: Huh?

8 AUDIENCE MEMBER: (Speaks in Inupiak)

9 MR. NAGEAK: (Continues translation)

10 MR. FOREMAN: Okay. Before we begin to take comments,  
11 I'd like to stress that our meeting tonight is specifically to  
12 hear comments and concerns related to the Alpine Satellite  
13 Development Plan and the 810 ANILCA finding in it.

14 MR. NAGEAK: (Translates)

15 MR. FOREMAN: Your comments will serve several  
16 purposes: They will tell us if we have correctly identified  
17 the resources of the area, uses of the land, and the potential  
18 effects of the different alternatives in the Draft  
19 Environmental Impact Statement.

20 MR. NAGEAK: (Translates)

21 MR. FOREMAN: You can suggest other alternatives that  
22 would reduce or eliminate effects on the land and resources  
23 needed for the subsistence purposes. You can also tell us if  
24 the proposed subsistence findings in the Draft EIS are accurate  
25 and whether we have left out anything in our subsistence

1 evaluation.

2 MR. NAGEAK: Do you have copies of that Draft  
3 Environmental.....

4 MR. FOREMAN: Yes.

5 MR. NAGEAK: (Translates) Who's going to have a copy  
6 here for the Draft Environmental Impact Statement?

7 MS. BROOKS: There's a copy at the city office.

8 MR. NAGEAK: Copies at the city office? (Continues  
9 translation)

10 MR. FOREMAN: As we begin now to take comments, I  
11 request that the audience be considerate of the speaker and  
12 give him or her the courtesy of your attention. And I'll now  
13 call the first person that signed up to speak.

14 MR. NAGEAK: (Translates)

15 MR. FOREMAN: The first person that signed up to speak  
16 is Earl Williams. Is Earl here?

17 MR. NAGEAK: Earl Williams? Peter, where are you?  
18 He's not here. Hey, there's (indiscernible). I think he's --  
19 what they said there -- sorry about that.

20 MR. FOREMAN: And at this time there isn't anyone else  
21 signed up to speak. No one is taking advantage of our five  
22 minutes here. Is there anyone that didn't sign up to speak  
23 that would like to at this time?

24 MR. NAGEAK: (Translates)

25 MR. FOREMAN: What I would like to do now is kind of

1 recess this hearing for about 20 minutes and we can all talk  
2 back there around the maps and give you any information you  
3 have. After that, we'll open the hearing again in case  
4 somebody would like to make a comment. Okay? So we'll go  
5 ahead. It's 7:50. We'll reconvene the hearing at 8:10 and --  
6 in case you've got some comments for us at that time.

7 MR. NAGEAK: (Translates)

8 MR. RAYMOND PANEAK: Can I say something before  
9 you.....

10 MR. FOREMAN: Sure.

11 MR. RAYMOND PANEAK: .....finish? You need to explain  
12 these to the people. They don't understand. You've got  
13 Alternative A, B, C, D and there are four choices -- four  
14 choices here. (Speaks in Inupiak) but there's four choices  
15 here and you might need to tell them again about this possible  
16 road, possible pipeline, and this "no roadless here." You  
17 never explained that too well.

18 MR. FOREMAN: Okay. And we'll take that  
19 opportunity.....

20 MR. RAYMOND PANEAK: Yeah, you should say.....

21 MR. FOREMAN: .....back here to where we can show the  
22 maps.

23 MR. RAYMOND PANEAK: Show them the alternatives. Come  
24 back here.

25 MR. FOREMAN: Sure.



1 MR. NAGEAK: (Translates)

2 (Off record)

3 MR. NAGEAK: (Resumes hearing in Inupiak)

4 MR. FOREMAN: Okay. I'd like to go ahead and reconvene  
5 the hearing now that we've kind of got a little better  
6 understanding of the alternatives. I'd like to open it up  
7 again for any kind of public testimony that you all may have  
8 now that we've discussed the alternatives.

9 So if there is anyone else that would like to come  
10 forward and speak, we'll open the hearing for that now. You  
11 don't have to take five minutes; you can take just one.

12 (General laughter)

13 MR. NAGEAK: (Translates)

14 MR. FOREMAN: Okay. One -- yes, sir?

15 MR. HARRY HUGO: What plan is Nuiqsut leaning towards?  
16 Alternate -- alternative A, B, C, D -- C or B?

17 MR. NAGEAK: (Translates)

18 MR. FOREMAN: Could I -- could I get your name for the  
19 record, sir?

20 MR. HARRY HUGO: Oh, I'm sorry. Hugo. Harry Hugo.

21 MR. FOREMAN: Thank you. Actually, I'm -- I have not  
22 seen anything distinct from Nuiqsut one way or the other of  
23 where they're leaning this way or, in fact, they may be coming  
24 in later with some suggestions on an alternative that has  
25 pieces or parts of all of those alternatives. So I can't help

1     you there, sir.

2             MR. NAGEAK:   (Translates)

3             MR. FOREMAN:   I believe there are parts of some of  
4     those alternatives that they like and there are some of the  
5     alternatives -- some parts of each alternative that they don't  
6     like, and by the end of the comment period, we're hoping to get  
7     a clearer view from Nuiqsut and Barrow and Atqasuk and you  
8     folks, too.

9             MR. NAGEAK:   And then you plan on putting together a  
10    "plan 5"?

11            MR. FOREMAN:   And then based on that information, we  
12    will put together the preferred alternative for this project.

13            MR. NAGEAK:   Which might be different from all of  
14    these?

15            MR. FOREMAN:   It may be.

16            MR. NAGEAK:   Okay.   (Translates)   You're going to have  
17    your last comments on March 1, right?

18            MR. FOREMAN:   (Nods)

19            MR. NAGEAK:   (Continues translation)

20            MR. FOREMAN:   So, again, are there -- is there anyone  
21    that would like to -- like to give some testimony or, if not,  
22    I'll go ahead and close the hearing at this time.   Yes, sir?

23            MR. RAYMOND PANEAK:   My name is Raymond Paneak.   I  
24    think there are some choices here like because I travel a lot  
25    and, again, I don't know what Nuiqsut wants, but me -- for me,

1 I would propose only one road from Nuiqsut to Alpine.  
2 That's -- that's only road I would prefer, but -- because of  
3 Arctic, Teshekpuk Herd, and Central Herd, if they build a road  
4 all over up there, I don't think they are going to reach  
5 Nuiqsut. We've got to watch our subsistence hunting because  
6 Nuiqsut use Teshekpuk Herd, Central Herd, and we all use them,  
7 too.

8 If they're going to build a road, I would just propose  
9 Alternative B or from Nuiqsut to Alpine only. And because  
10 those -- we witness some here that when built that Dalton  
11 Highway, those Porcupine Herd used to cross over here. Now, no  
12 more. Every spring used to cross from Wiseman through  
13 Anaktuvuk River. No more after they built up Haul Road and  
14 pipeline. That's what I would propose, only one road from  
15 Nuiqsut to Alpine. (Translates) Thank you.

16 MR. FOREMAN: Thank you, sir.

17 MR. NAGEAK: (Speaks in Inupiak)

18 MR. SOLLIE HUGO: (Speaks from back of room)

19 MR. NAGEAK: We can't hear you.

20 MR. FOREMAN: I can't.....

21 MR. NAGEAK: Come on up. State your name, your height,  
22 your weight, and social security number.

23 (General laughter)

24 MR. SOLLIE HUGO: I'm Sollie Hugo. I want to question  
25 you on the impact benefits you keep talking about. I'm not

1 clear on that issue there, for the benefits as far as feeling  
2 the impact on your plans here for development. Can you kind of  
3 elaborate on that? Give us an example maybe on the impact  
4 benefit or relief or whatever you call it?

5 MR. FOREMAN: I'm not sure I can, sir.

6 MR. SOLLIE HUGO: You can't?

7 MR. NAGEAK: What benefits are you talking about?

8 MR. SOLLIE HUGO: That's what I'm trying to clarify  
9 here. If there's an impact on our subsistence use, what -- how  
10 can we benefit from your -- how are you going to alleviate that  
11 problem, supposing that it comes up? I'm sure that's some kind  
12 of impact there.

13 MR. FOREMAN: And that's why we're relying on you, is  
14 to give us some ideas on what we might do. If you feel there  
15 are impacts to your subsistence hunting, we would like to make  
16 sure we understand those impacts and any ideas you have to make  
17 those impacts less.

18 MR. SOLLIE HUGO: Is it going to be like if --  
19 supposing you kind of ran over somebody's allotment or  
20 chemically pollute the lands, how do you -- how do you -- how  
21 are you going to make the people that live on the certain area  
22 benefit from that? Are they going to get some kind of relief  
23 or are you going to just make a statement saying you're sorry  
24 or how are you going to work that?

25 MR. FOREMAN: What we have done is we have prepared the

1 analysis in the Environmental Impact Statement. With that, we  
2 talk about any kind of -- or we try to talk about any kind of  
3 social concerns, concerns to subsistence hunting, how we're  
4 going to try to alleviate or eliminate any of the negative  
5 impacts, and also to point out what might be happening as far  
6 as jobs in the future and that kind of thing. That's all part  
7 of our analysis and what we need is to have you all look at  
8 that and see if you think we're correct in what we're saying.  
9 We're relying on you to give us a lot of our information that  
10 we need to come out with our Final EIS.

11 We certainly don't have all the answers and we're  
12 hoping -- we're hoping you do.

13 MR. SOLLIE HUGO: Okay. When you do your survey --  
14 how should I word this? Let's say you have three or four  
15 different resolutions from the people in the immediate area.  
16 How do you come to a conclusion as to which way or how to  
17 decide like if we have differences of opinion in one area and  
18 then somebody else has a different opinion on another area  
19 opposed to ours? How do you alleviate that situation? Do you  
20 just scissors, rock, paper, or do you pick the longest straw,  
21 or how do you go about that?

22 MR. FOREMAN: That's a good question. We will be  
23 sitting down as an interagency group and all of the people that  
24 have been working on this EIS, and we'll be looking at your  
25 comments and comments from everywhere to put those together and

1     come up with our preferred alternative.

2             So we will be considering and analyzing everyone's  
3     concerns. Some people may disagree with us at the end; some  
4     people may agree with us at the end, but we're going to be  
5     analyzing what everybody tell us. And it's not going to be  
6     just one or two people looking at this; there will be quite a  
7     group, so.....

8             MR. SOLLIE HUGO: Is it like a survey or -- do you do a  
9     survey or.....

10            MR. FOREMAN: There have been.....

11            MR. SOLLIE HUGO: Or is it just research or.....

12            MR. FOREMAN: Well, there have been interviews and  
13     everything that Mr. Braun did throughout the area to get a lot  
14     of information for us. And then we've got a lot of biologists  
15     from the state and from BLM and we've got help from the EPA and  
16     other agencies to help us put this information together. And  
17     now we go to you, the public, and make sure that we've got it  
18     right. So if there's anything in there that isn't right, we  
19     need to know about it so that we can adjust our thinking.

20            MR. SOLLIE HUGO: When you say if it's not in there,  
21     what are you referring to?

22            MR. NAGEAK: The books that are 20 pounds each over  
23     there, that thick, both of them are about that high.

24            MR. SOLLIE HUGO: Okay.

25            MR. NAGEAK: And then there's typewritten stuff on each

1 side, and they're small types, too. Not many pictures, either.  
2 Geez. (Translates)

3 I think one of the problems that Sollie had was using  
4 the English language. What compensation would there be if  
5 there was an oil spill or if there was some carcinogens that  
6 are -- that fall into the lakes or rivers to decimate the  
7 resources that are being used by the Nunamiut people, the  
8 people at Nuiqsut, Barrow? And I think that was the first --  
9 you know, what benefit would it -- would -- what compensation  
10 would there be like the Exxon, you know? If there was an Exxon  
11 type, things like that. You know, that's -- that's  
12 speculative, but it could happen and all of the resources could  
13 be impacted by a catastrophe, a cataclysmic termination of  
14 resources. That was -- I think that was the -- the.....

15 MR. FOREMAN: Okay.

16 MR. NAGEAK: What is being -- is that being addressed  
17 in the Environmental Impact Statement? I think that is the  
18 ultimate question.

19 MR. FOREMAN: Yeah. We can address some of your  
20 question in the EIS and believe we have. Again, you need to  
21 tell us. We do have a section in there on oil spills and that  
22 type of issue. What we can't get into with this EIS, it's  
23 beyond what we can control or anything, that would be something  
24 in the courts and all of that as far as compensation if  
25 something like that did happen. That would be something this

1 agency would not administer.

2 MR. NAGEAK: (Translates)

3 MR. FOREMAN: Okay. If -- are there any other -- is  
4 there any other testimony that anyone would like to give? If  
5 not, I'll go ahead and close the formal hearing. We're still  
6 going to be around for another 15 or 20 minutes if people want  
7 to continue to ask us questions. So if there's no more  
8 testimony at this time, I'll close the hearing at 8:40.

9 MR. NAGEAK: (Translates)

10 MR. FOREMAN: Okay. And I want to thank everybody that  
11 showed up tonight and thank you for your interest in this -- in  
12 this project. I would like to remind you that we do have until  
13 March 1st to get comments in. Maybe we can answer some more  
14 questions, give you some more ideas because we do -- we do  
15 certainly appreciate any comments that we get from you all and  
16 so we'll just go ahead and answer comments for the next 20, 30  
17 minutes and hopefully hear from you with written comments or  
18 comments on the e-mail. Thank you very much.

19 MR. NAGEAK: (Translates)

20 MR. FOREMAN: Thank you, sir.

21 MR. NAGEAK: Uh-huh.

22 (Off record)

23 (END OF PROCEEDINGS)

24

25



## C E R T I F I C A T E

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA )  
 ) ss.

STATE OF ALASKA )

I, Elizabeth D'Amour, Notary Public in and for the State of Alaska, residing at Fairbanks, Alaska, and court reporter for Liz D'Amour & Associates, Inc., do hereby certify:

That the annexed and foregoing ALPINE SATELLITE DEVELOPMENT PLAN DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT, PUBLIC MEETING PROCEEDINGS was taken before me on the 17th day of February, 2004, beginning at the hour of 7:00 o'clock p.m., at Village Council Hall, Anaktuvuk Pass, Alaska;

That this hearing, as heretofore annexed, is a true and correct transcription of the testimony of said PUBLIC MEETING, taken by me electronically and thereafter transcribed by me;

That the hearing has been retained by me for the purpose of filing the same with the U.S. Department of Interior, Bureau of Land Management, 222 West 7th Avenue, Suite 13, Anchorage, Alaska, as required by law.

That I am not a relative or employee or attorney or counsel of any of the parties, nor am I financially interested in this action.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and affixed my seal this 18th day of February, 2004.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Notary Public in and for Alaska  
My commission expires: 12/28/06

S E A L

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